

Message Text

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INFO USMISSION NATO

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FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: END OF ROUND XII PRESS CONFERENCES

1. SUMMARY. END-OF-ROUND EASTERN PRESS STATEMENT CHARGED THAT THE WEST WAS UNABLE TO PROVE ITS ASSERTION OF A LARGE MANPOWER SUPERIORITY FAVORING THE EAST IN THE REDUCTION AREA AND THAT THE WEST SOUGHT INSTEAD TO PROBE THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF WARSAW PACT FORCES AND REFERRED TO THE FAILURE OF WESTERN PARTICIPANTS TO PROVE THEIR GROUNDLESS CLAIMS CONCERNING AN ALLEGED, LARGE MILITARY SUPERIORITY FAVORING THE WARSAW PACT; STATEMENT ALSO REFERRED TO EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL AND CITED NATO INTEREST IN THE NEUTRON BOMB AS FURTHER EVIDENCE
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OF THE VALIDITY OF THE EASTERN PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE ALL NUCLEAR ELEMENTS IN COMPREHENSIVE ARMAMENT REDUCTIONS AND LIMITATIONS. MENTION OF THE NEUTRON WEAPON PROVOKED SEVERAL FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS FROM REPORTERS, ONE OF WHICH WAS DIRECTED AT THE WESTERN SPOKESMAN (NETHERLANDS REP DE VOS) WHO MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO FINAL DECISIONS AS REGARDS PRODUCTION

OR POSSIBLE DEPLOYMENT OF THE WEAPON. END SUMMARY.

2. Q'S AND A'S WESTERN END OF ROUND XII PRESS CONFERENCE BY
AMBASSADOR DE VOS, JULY 21, 1977

1. Q. (REUTERS - WIELAND) THE SOVIET DELEGATION AND THE POLISH
AMBASSADOR HERE BROUGHT THE NEUTRON BOMB INTO THE DISCUSSION.
DID AMBASSADOR RESOR MAKE ANY MENTION OF THIS BOMB. WHAT IS
THE STAND OF NATO REGARDING THESE REMARKS?

A. IN ANSWER TO YOUR FIRST QUESTION: NO, AMBASSADOR RESOR DID
NOT MENTION IT. YOU ASKED ABOUT THE NATO POSITION.
WELL THERE IS STILL DISCUSSION GOING ON AND NATO HAS NOT,
AS AN ALLIANCE, TAKEN A STAND ON IT. I THINK YOU
ARE AWARE OF THE STATEMENT WHICH THE UNITED STATES
PRESIDENT HAS MADE. HE MADE QUITE CLEAR THAT THERE IS
NO DECISION SO FAR TO DEPLOY THESE WEAPONS. THERE HAS
ONLY BEEN -- SO FAR AS I UNDERSTAND -- DISCUSSION OF
THE DECISION ON DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION. SO THIS
WHOLE MATTER IS STILL SUBJECT TO EVALUATION, CONSIDERATION,
STUDY AND DISCUSSION IN THE ALLIANCE. I AM
CONFIDENT THAT DISCUSSION WILL TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE
POTENTIAL POSSIBLE IMPACT OF SUCH WEAPONS ON DIS-
ARMAMENT AND ONGOING ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS. BUT
AS I MENTIONED BEFORE, THERE HAS BEEN NO DECISION
WHATSOEVER TO ACTUALLY DEPLOY THE WEAPONS. SO ALL
THAT COULD BE SAID AT THIS MOMENT WOULD BE BASED ON
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PURE CONJECTURE. THE ONLY THING I WOULD LIKE TO ADD
IS THAT THE DISCUSSION WHICH IS NOW GOING ON ABOUT
THESE WEAPONS UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROPOSALS THE WEST
HAS MADE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS IN DECEMBER 1975, OF WHICH ONE
IMPORTANT ELEMENT WAS A REDUCTION OF UNITED STATES NUCLEAR
WARHEADS IN THE REDUCTION AREA AND AN ENDURING LIMITATION ON
THE RESIDUAL LEVEL.

2. Q. (PRAVDA - MELNIKOV) SINCE PRAVDA DOESN'T OFTEN ASK
YOU QUESTIONS, I WANT TO ASK TWO QUESTIONS. HOW
CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE FACT THAT DURING TWO ROUNDS OF
NEGOTIATIONS, THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOT FOLLOWING THE
SO-CALLED GENERAL LINES BUT INSTEAD ARE GOING ON
SUPPLEMENTARY LINES, THAT IS THE DISCUSSION OF THE
MATTER OF THE DATA? THE WESTERN PRESS WRITES RATHER
OFTEN ABOUT THE INITIATIVE WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAS, THE INITIATIVE
CONCERNING THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS. UP TO NOW, WE
DON'T SEE ANY RESULT. CAN YOU EXPLAIN THIS BY THE
FACT THAT THIS IS THE RESULT OF THE PRESSURE BY THE
WESTERN COUNTRIES OVER THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY?

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FROM US REP MBFR

A. YOUR FIRST QUESTION, YOU CALLED DATA SUPPLEMENTARY.
I SUPPOSE THAT YOU MEAN A SUBORDINATE QUESTION.
WE THINK THAT THE DATA DISCUSSION IS VERY IMPORTANT
AS WE TRIED TO MAKE CLEAR IN THE STATEMENT I READ
BEFORE. IN FACT WE UNDERSTAND THAT BOTH SIDES AGREE
NOW ON THIS -- THE EASTERN SIDE AFTER SOME HESITATION
BECAUSE WE HAD TO WAIT FOR ABOUT THREE YEARS FOR
THE EAST TO SUBMIT SOME DATA. BUT THEY HAVE NOW
APPARENTLY RECOGNIZED THAT AN AGREEMENT ON DATA IS
A PREREQUISITE FOR ANY REDUCTION AGREEMENT; BECAUSE
NOT ONLY THE REDUCTIONS BUT ALSO THE ENDURING LIMITA-
TIONS HAVE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN CONCRETE NUMBERS.
WE THINK, AND I SAID THAT ALSO IN MY STATEMENT, THAT
IT IS THE POSITIVE ELEMENT IN THIS ROUND THAT WE
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HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS. WE HOPE TO CONTINUE IN THE NEXT ROUND BECAUSE WE ARE STILL FAR APART, AND THE CONSIDERABLE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN FIGURES ON WARSAW PACT STRENGTHS AND MILITARY MANPOWER STRENGTH IN THE AREA HAS TO BE CLEARED UP. THAT, I WOULD CONSIDER TO BE MY ANSWER TO YOUR FIRST QUESTION. THE SECOND QUESTION IS NOT QUITE CLEAR. YOU MENTIONED THE INITIATIVE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. I BELIEVE YOU WERE REALLY THINKING ABOUT RECENT STORIES ABOUT STATEMENTS MADE BY CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. IS THAT RIGHT? THESE STATEMENTS ARE QUITE RECENT AND IT CONFIRMS, OF COURSE, THE GENERAL AND STRONG INTEREST WHICH ALL GOVERNMENTS OF THE NATO DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS ATTACH TO THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO OBTAINING POSITIVE AND SUCCESSFUL RESULTS BY OBTAINING AN AGREEMENT. OF COURSE ANY NEW IDEAS ON HOW TO MOVE FORWARD IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED IN THE ALLIANCE BECAUSE WE ARE NEGOTIATING ON THE WESTERN SIDE ON A BASIS OF AN ALLIED POSITION, THAT IS A POSITION AGREED IN THE ALLIANCE. SUCH CONSIDERATION IN THE ALLIANCE OF NEW IDEAS, IDEAS TO MOVE THE NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD, ALSO THEIR TIMING WOULD, NO DOUBT, TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION SUCH INDICATIONS AS WE HAVE OR DO NOT HAVE OF EASTERN INTEREST IN MOVING FORWARD AND IN CHANGING THE EASTERN NEGOTIATING POSITION WHICH, AS I SAID, SO FAR HAS BEEN UNREALISTIC, NOT TAKING ACCOUNT OF BASIC REALITIES AND, THEREFORE, AN INEQUITABLE NEGOTIATING POSITION LEADING TO AN INEQUITABLE OUTCOME. HAVING SAID THIS, YOU MAY HAVE NOTED ALSO THAT THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR UNDERLINED THE CONTINUING VALIDITY OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE CENTRAL FEATURES OF OUR NEGOTIATING POSITION WHICH ARE PARITY AND COLLECTIVITY. I THINK THAT DEMONSTRATES THAT THERE IS, ON THE BASIC LINES, UNITY IN THE ALLIANCE AND I DO NOT SEE ANY SIGNS OF OTHER COUNTRIES PRESSURING THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. I WONDER WHETHER YOU COULD GIVE ME SOME INDICATION OF WHAT YOU REALLY MEAN BY THAT?

3. Q. (REUTERS - WIELAND) MR. AMBASSADOR I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU A QUESTION ABOUT THE RECENT WESTERN PROPOSALS WITH REGARD TO MOVING THE DATA DISCUSSION FORWARD. AMBASSADOR DABROWA TOLD US THAT THESE PROPOSALS WERE FOCUSED ON THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND THE LOCATION OF UNITS OF THE WARSAW PACT. I KNOW YOU ENVOKE HERE, YOU ALWAYS DO HERE, THE POSITION OF CONFIDENTIALITY. AS WE HAVE ALREADY HEARD FROM THE

OTHER SIDE IN CHARACTERIZING THE WESTERN PROPOSAL,
I WONDER IF YOU COULD MAKE A COMMENT ON THIS?

A. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IN MY STATEMENT I REFERRED TO THE
RULE OF CONFIDENTIALITY. I MUST SAY THAT I REGRET
THAT MY POLISH COLLEAGUE DID NOT. I REGRET THAT
HE FELT BOUND TO GO BEYOND THE RULE OF CONFIDENTIALITY
BY MAKING CERTAIN COMPARISONS TO GIVE INDICATIONS
OF OUR NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL. I REGRET ALL THE MORE
THAT HE DID SO IN A MISLEADING WAY. THERE IS NO
QUESTION THAT WE DID NOT ASK THE EAST TO GIVE US
THE LOCATION OF SPECIFIC FORCES, SPECIFIC UNITS.
THAT IS ALL I WOULD LIKE TO SAY ON THIS. I WOULD
LIKE TO STICK TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY RULE. (REUTERS:
YOU SAY THAT WE DID NOT ASK THE EAST?) THIS IS SIMPLY
NOT IN CONFIRMITY WITH THE FACTS, WHAT HE SAID.

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FROM US REP MBFR

4. Q. (UNIDENTIFIED) WHAT ABOUT THE STRUCTURE OF THE (UNCLEAR)
A. AS I SAID, I WOULD NOT LIKE TO GO FURTHER INTO THIS
MATTER. HE STRESSED THE EASTERN PROPOSAL OF BREAKING DOWN
FORCES ACCORDING TO NATIONALITY. YOU SEE THAT NATO HAS A

COLLECTIVE DEFENSE FORCES. WOULD A BREAKDOWN OF THOSE FORCES BE UNRELATED TO STRUCTURE SOMEHOW? WE REALLY GET INTO SEMANTICS. IT WOULD NOT HELP YOU IN YOUR TASK OF INFORMING THE PUBLIC IN A CLEAR WAY. I KNOW IT WOULD NOT HELP US IN THE DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE EAST AND WEST TO GO INTO THIS SORT OF DISCUSSION. I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I DO STICK TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY RULE IN THESE MATTERS.

5. Q. (REUTERS- WIELAND) HAVE YOU, NEVERTHELESS, HAD A REACTION FROM THE EASTERN SIDE TO THESE IDEAS?
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A. THEY HAVE TOLD US THEY WOULD GIVE US THEIR CONSIDERED REPLY IN THE NEXT ROUND.

6. Q. (APA-ALTSCHUL) DID I UNDERSTAND RIGHTLY FROM YOUR STATEMENT THAT YOU MEAN THAT IN THE NEXT ROUND THAT YOU WILL GO ON TO TALK ABOUT DATA? IF THAT IS THE CASE, DOES IT ALSO MEAN THAT YOU WILL WAIT FOR THE PROPOSAL TO COME FROM THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR? WHAT IS THE POSITION, I DON'T QUITE GET IT?

A. WHAT I SAID ABOUT CONTINUING THE DISCUSSION THE NEXT ROUND REFERRED TO THE DATA DISCUSSION. THAT IS AN IMPORTANT DISCUSSION AND WE THINK THAT IT HAS TO BE CONTINUED. THAT IS, WE THINK THAT ON THE BASIS OF THE SUGGESTIONS THAT WE HAVE PUT FORWARD, WE COULD DO SO IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY AND THAT WE COULD MAKE PROGRESS. WE HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO SO.

7. Q. (CBS-REED) IT SEEMS TO ME THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT EMPHASIZED MORE ABOUT THE PACE OF THE TALKS AND SAID THE WHITE HOUSE HAD AGREED, AND HE ALSO WAS THINKING OF BREZHNEV, THAT IF THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT IN THE SALT TALKS, THAT THIS SHOULD TAKE PRECEDENCE?

A. I CANNOT COMMENT ON STATEMENTS MADE BY INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS; IT IS NOT WITHIN MY COMPETENCE HERE. YOU REFERRED TO SALT AND POSSIBLE LINKAGE SOME WAY BETWEEN THESE TWO NEGOTIATIONS. I HAVE TRIED TO EXPLAIN ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS THAT IT HAS BEEN THE WESTERN POSITION FROM THE BEGINNING THAT THERE CAN BE NO ORGANIC LINK BETWEEN THESE TWO IN THE SENSE THAT BOTH OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS DESERVE TO BE PURSUED ON THE BASIS OF THEIR OWN MERITS. THERE CANNOT BE A LINK IN THE SENSE THAT PROGRESS HAS TO BE MADE IN ONE OR THAT CONCLUSIONS OR AGREEMENTS HAVE TO BE REACHED IN ONE BEFORE YOU CAN PROCEED IN THE OTHER. IF PROGRESS IS NOT AS DESIRED IN ONE,
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YOU SHOULD NOT GIVE UP THE HOPE OF PROGRESS IN THE OTHER. LET ME SAY AGAIN OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE, AND HAVE BEEN FROM THE BEGINNING, AND HAVE DEMONSTRATED THIS BY THE PROPOSALS WE HAVE MADE, INTERESTED IN SERIOUSLY GETTING AN AGREEMENT.

8. Q. (REUTERS-WIELAND) IN FOLLOWING UP ON THIS, THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS FROM THE SOCIALIST SIDE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A GENERAL SLOW-DOWN IN THE INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE AFFECTING ALL FORMS OF DETENTE. I WONDER IF YOU WOULD CARE TO COMMENT ON THIS AND WHETHER YOU THINK IN ANY WAY THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SLOWDOWNS HERE OR IF THERE IS LIKELY TO BE A SLOWDOWN BECAUSE OF THIS GENERAL ATMOSPHERE?

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FROM US REP MBFR

A. THERE IS NOT MUCH TO SLOW DOWN SO FAR BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF MOVEMENT FROM THE EASTERN SIDE. WE HAVE NOT NOTICED RECENTLY ANY DIFFERENCE SO FAR AS THE EAST'S INTEREST. WE STILL ASSUME THAT BOTH SIDES -- WE KNOW THAT WE ARE INTERESTED -- WE STILL ASSUME THAT THE OTHER SIDE IS INTERESTED IN GETTING AN

AGREEMENT. THE EASTERN SIDE HAS OFTEN SUBSCRIBED TO THAT AND IT HAS BEEN DOCUMENTED -- CONTRACTUALIZED SO TO SPEAK IN THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT -- THAT DETENTE HAS POLITICAL AND MILITARY ASPECTS WHICH ARE INTER-DEPENDENT. YOU CANNOT, ACCORDINGLY, DEVELOP DETENTE IN THE LONG RUN WITHOUT ALSO DOING SOMETHING IN THE MILITARY FIELD WHICH REDUCES THE LEVEL OF MILITARY CONFRONTATION.
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3. Q'S AND A'S EASTERN (DABROWA) PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 21, 1977

A. Q. (REUTERS -WIELAND) REGARDING DATA, ON PAGE 4 OF YOUR STATEMENT YOU SAY THAT YOU "SUPPLEMENTED WITH NEW IMPORTANT ELEMENTS", THE EASTERN PROPOSALS ON DATA. CAN YOU GIVE US ANY DETAILS OF THESE NEW ELEMENTS AND HOW THEY DIFFER FROM THE LATEST WESTERN PROPOSALS IN DEALING WITH THE DATA QUESTION?

A. IN THE LAST ROUND, THE SOCIALIST DELEGATIONS, WITH THE AIM OF FINDING THE SOURCE OF THE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ABOUT THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF THE ARMED FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE, PROPOSED A BREAK-UP OF DATA ON WARSAW PACT AND ON THE WARSAW PACT AND NATO FORCES INTO NATIONAL CONTINGENTS DATA. IN THE COURSE OF THIS ROUND, WE HAVE ADDED NEW ELEMENTS. I CAN NOT DISCLOSE THE DETAILS, BUT MAY ADD TO MY WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT, IF THIS PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTED, PARTICIPANTS WOULD HAVE AT THEIR DISPOSAL MORE NUMBERS THAN NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF THE INDIVIDUAL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN THE AREA. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR PROPOSED METHOD AND THE ONE RECENTLY PROPOSED BY THE WEST IS THAT THE METHOD OF DISCUSSION OF OUR PROPOSAL DOES NOT CONCERN THE ORGANIZATION OR LOCATION OF MILITARY FORCES.

2. Q. (ZDF - RUEHL) HOW IS IT THAT THE DISCUSSION ON WHAT YOU CALL THE NEUTRON BOMB IN NATO STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF EXTENDING THE LIMITATIONS ON NUCLEAR ARMS SINCE SO FAR NO QUALITATIVE CRITERIA HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS SINCE 1973 AND SINCE THERE ARE NUCLEAR ARMS ON BOTH SIDES?

A. THE AIM OF THESE TALKS AS UNDERSTOOD BY THE SOCIALISTS DELEGATIONS IS TO REDUCE ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND ESTABLISH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIMITATIONS ON POST-REDUCTION LEVELS OF THESE ARMAMENTS AS

WELL AS MANPOWER. THEREFORE, WE CONSIDER THAT ANY INTENT TO INTRODUCE NEW KINDS OF WEAPONS INTO THE AREA CONTRADICTS THE AIM OF THE TALKSM I CAN NOT SAY IT CONTRADICTS THE LETTER, SINCE WE HAVE NO AGREEMENT AND IT IS TRUE WE HAVE NO QUALITATIVE CRITERIA. BUT IN OUR VIEW, IT IS CLEARLY CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF OUR TALKS.

3. Q. (ZDK - RUEHL) IS THIS ONLY FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR ALL KINDS OF WEAPONS?

A. WELL, NOT BEING A TECHNICIAN, I CAN NOT JUDGE WHAT IS QUALITATIVELY A NEW WEAPON AND WHAT IS NOT. IN MY VIEW, IT CONCERNS ALL KINDS OF NEW WEAPONS, NOT JUST THE NEUTRON BOMB. SINCE AT THIS VERY MOMENT THE DISCUSSION IN NATO CONCERNS THE NEUTRON BOMB, THAT IS WHY WE MENTIONED THE NEUTRON BOMB IN OUR STATEMENT. IF YOU HAD IN MIND THE CRUISE MISSILE, FOR INSTANCE, AS FAR AS WHAT I SAID BEFORE REGARDING NEUTRON BOMBS - IT IS FULLY VALID AS FAR AS THE CRUISE MISSILES ARE CONCERNED.

4. Q. (ZDF - RUEHL) JUST A GENERAL QUESTION ON THIS POINT, MR. AMBASSADOR, DOES THIS NOT MEAN -- ITS A LEADING QUESTION, OF COURSE, -- DOES THIS NOT MEAN THAT YOU ARE EXTENDING CONSIDERABLY THE SCOPE OF THE ENTIRE NEGOTIATIONS?

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FROM US REP MBFR

A. I DON'T CONSIDER THAT THIS IS AN EXTENSION OF THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE TALKS. THERE IS A DEFINITE NUMBER OF ARMAMENTS NOW IN EUROPE. WE ARE HERE TO DISCUSS THE REDUCTION OF THIS HUGH ARSENAL. BUT, I THINK YOU AGREE WITH ME THAT IT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF OUR FUTURE AGREEMENT, IF WE SIMPLY DECIDE TO WITHDRAW ONE KIND OF WEAPON AND THEN BRING BACK ANOTHER KIND OF WEAPON. THIS IS NOT THE AIM OF THE PARTICIPANTS, AT LEAST THIS IS NOT THE AIM OF THE SOCIALIST DELEGATIONS AT THESE TALKS.

5. Q. (DIE PRESS-POSSANNER) MR AMBASSADOR, YOU HAVE BEEN STRESSING APPROXIMATE PARITY OF THESE TWO GROUPINGS OF ARMED FORCES IN THIS AREA AND THEN YOU HAVE BEEN STRESSING THE FACT THAT THE EQUILIBRIUM HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIATED BY THE OFFICIAL DATA. WHAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARE OFFICIAL DATA? HAVE THEY BEEN AGREED BY NATO? WHAT DOES APPROXIMATE PARITY MEAN--IN NUMBERS OR WHATEVER YOU WANT?

A. THE OFFICIAL DATA MEANS THAT THE SOCIALIST DELEGATIONS IN JUNE LAST YEAR OFFICIALLY TABLED THE DATA ON THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF THEIR ARMED FORCES, INCLUDING GROUND FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. AND IN DECEMBER, LAST YEAR, THE NATO DELEGATIONS TABLED THE OFFICIAL DATA ON THE NATO NUMERICAL MILITARY STRENGTH IN CENTRAL EUROPE. EACH SIDE KNOWS BETTER THEIR OWN FORCES THAN THE OTHER SIDE. THAT'S QUITE CLEAR. THAT IS WHY WE CALL OUR DATA AS OFFICIAL DATA. THEY ARE NO MORE PRESS SPECULATIONS, THEY ARE NO MERELY ESTIMATES. THESE ARE DATA OFFICIALLY COUNTED IN OUR UNITS--MILITARY UNITS--AND SUB-UNITS. THAT IS WHY WE CONSIDER THEY ARE OFFICIAL.

AND WHAT APPROXIMATE PARITY MEANS, I THINK IT IS -- SHOULD BE--CLEAR THAT THERE IS CONSTANT FLUCTUATION OF FORCES IN EACH COUNTRY AND YOU CAN NOT PETRIFY THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF THE FORCES BECAUSE SOLDIERS ARE BEING RECRUITED, THEY ARE SUBJECT TO REMOVAL FROM THE ARMED FORCES AND SO ON. SO IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO GIVE DATA, OR FOR THAT MATTER TO AGREE ON THE PARITY (DOWN) TO EACH SINGLE SOLDIER. THERE MUST BE A MARGIN AND NOBODY DENIES THIS AT THE TALKS. HOW BIG IS THE MARGIN FOR AN APPROXIMATE PARITY, STILL HAS TO BE DECIDED. WE DID NOT DISCUSS THIS YET AT THE TALKS.

CLOSING STATEMENT BY DABROWA: SINCE BY THE END OF THIS MONTH I AM CONCLUDING MY ASSIGNMENT AS HEAD OF THE POLISH DELEGATION,

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY VIEW THAT THE COOPERATION BETWEEN YOU AND ME WAS VERY FRUITFUL AND I APPRECIATED IT VERY MUCH DURING MY TWO YEARS STAY IN VIENNA. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL

SUCCESS IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER AS WELL AS GOOD LUCK IN
YOUR PERSONAL LIVES.

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4. PRESS STATEMENT BY SOVIET DELEGATION SPOKESMAN (SEMENNIKOV)
RE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE TARASOV PLENARY STATEMENT (JULY 21, 1977)

IN THE DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATION OF THE SOVIET UNION IT
WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE EXCHANGE OF THE OFFICIAL FIGURES
CONFIRMED THE EXISTENCE OF APPROXIMATE EQUALITY IN THE
RELATIONSHIP OF ARMED FORCES OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT
AND THE COUNTRIES OF NATO IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THIS MAKES IT
POSSIBLE ON THE BASIS OF AN EQUAL PERCENTAGE METHOD, WHICH HAS
BEEN PROPOSED BY THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, TO COME TO A NEGOTIATED
AGREEMENT ON CONCRETE REDUCTIONS OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS ON THE
PART OF ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WITHOUT DIMINISHING THE SECURITY
OF ANY OF THEM, AND TO REACH REALLY SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS OF THE
MILITARY POTENTIAL OF BOTH SIDES AND THUS CONTRIBUTE TO THE
STRENGTHENING OF PEACE. HOWEVER, THE WESTERN COUNTRIES, AS BEFORE,
HAVE BEEN BLOCKING THE WORKING OUT OF EQUITABLE NEGOTIATED
AGREEMENTS. THEY HAVE BEEN AIMING AT GETTING UNILATERAL
ADVANTAGES. THE ESSENCE OF THEIR POSITION CONSISTS IN THIS:
THEY WISH INSTEAD OF THE REDUCTION OF THEIR ARMAMENTS, TO STEP

UP THE DEGREE OF ARMAMENT, THEY WISH INSTEAD OF THE REDUCTION
IN THEIR AIR FORCES AND NUCLEAR MISSILE FORCES, TO ARM
THEMSELVES WITH SUCH WEAPONS, THIS HAS BEEN SHOWN BY THE MAY
SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF NATO. THEY WOULD WISH TO INTRODUCE
NEW FORMS OF ARMANENT, FOR EXAMPLE, THE NEUTRON BOMB AND
THE WINGED (SIC) ROCKETS. THEY WISH TO INTRODUCE

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FROM US REP MBFR

A MUCH MORE CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION OF THE LAND FORCES OF THE
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES THAN OF THEIRS. THIS POSITION CUTS

RIGHT ACROSS THE PRINCIPLES WHICH WERE AGREED IN THE COURSE
OF THE PREPARATORY CONSULTATIONS. THE WEST SINCE DECEMBER
1975 HAS NOT INTRODUCED ANY COMPROMISE PROPOSAL. IN FACT,
THE WEST IS DECLARING AS FOLLOWS: EITHER YOU ACCEPT THE
WESTERN PROPOSALS OR NATO IS GOING TO GET CRACKING ON A STILL
MORE INTENSE INCREASE OF ITS ARSENAL OF WEAPONS. THE SOVIET
REPRESENTATIVE GAVE A WARNING THAT THIS IS NOT A METHOD OF
DISCUSSING MATTERS WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. THE
DELEGATION OF THE USSR NOTED THAT THE DISCUSSION ABOUT THE
NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WHICH HAS
BEEN GOING NOW FOR TWO ROUNDS IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS, HAS NOT
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CONFIRMED THE WESTERN COUNTRIES' ASSESSMENT. THE WEST IS
LEADING AWAY THE DISCUSSION OF THE NUMERICAL MATERIAL INTO
AN IMPOSSIBLE JUNGLE OF DETAILS AND IT, AT THE SAME TIME,
ESCAPES THE CLEARING UP OF THE MAIN THING, WHICH IS THIS --
WHAT IS AMONG THE WESTERN PARTICIPANTS THE NUMERICAL FORCES
OF THEIR ARMED FORCES WHICH MUST BE REDUCED. IT IS OBVIOUS
THAT THE PURPOSE OF THIS TACTIC IS TO CLEAR UP THE ORGANIZA-
TIONAL STRUCTURE, OR MAKE CLEAR THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE,
OF THE ARMIES OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, AND AT THE SAME
TIME, TO COVER UP WHICH OF THE COUNTRIES ON THE OTHER SIDE
HAS THE GREATEST CONCENTRATION OF THE BASIC ARMED FORCES OF
NATO IN CENTRAL EUROPE, AND FREE THOSE FORCES FROM THE IMPACT
OF REDUCTIONS. NOW, THIS TACTIC IS IN NO WAY CHANGED BY THE
LATEST PROPOSALS OF THE WEST CONCERNING THE METHOD TO BE
FOLLOWED IN THE DISCUSSION OF THE STATISTICAL DATA. IT WAS
POINTED OUT THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, WHO ARE SURE OF
THE ADVANTAGES OF THEIR PROPOSALS IN THE MATTER OF THE
REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS, ARE PREPARED TO

LOOK AT ANY WESTERN PROPOSALS OF A COMPROMISE NATURE, WHICH
WOULD CORRESPOND TO THE REAL SITUATION AND THE AGREED
PRINCIPLES FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS. FOR THE TIME BEING, HOWEVER,
SUCH PROPOSALS, OBVIOUSLY, HAVE NOT MATURED YET IN THE
WESTERN CAMP. IN THIS CONNECTION, STILL GREATER TOPICALITY
IS ACQUIRED BY THE IDEA PUT FORTH BY THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES
THAT THERE SHOULD BE A NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT AT LEAST THAT
THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF THE ARMIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE SHOULD
NOT BE INCREASED DURING THE PERIOD OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.
THE CARRYING OUT OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT WOULD BE MUCH MORE
USEFUL THAN A NEW ARMS RACE. RESOR

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